

LETTERS FROM THE LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER OF THE STATE LAW LIBRARY OF MISSISSIPPI

"There shall be ... a library ... known as the state library"

An Act to provide for a State Library – General Laws, 1838

August 2018

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State Library Hours

Monday – Friday
8am – 5pm

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Jackson to be host City for SEAALL 2020

The City of Jackson has been selected by the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law



Libraries (SEAALL) as the host of its 2020 Annual Meeting. Stephen Parks, with the support of the Law Library Directors of the University of Mississippi and Mississippi College, submitted the proposal in late 2017 with the announcement of Jackson 2020 being made earlier this year. The SEAALL Annual Meeting was last in Mississippi in 1990 when Oxford hosted the program with the theme of “An Anthology of Issues Facing Law Librarians.”

Comprising over 500 individuals from eleven Southeastern states and Puerto Rico, SEAALL is an official chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries with its members coming from court, law firm, corporate, and academic law libraries.

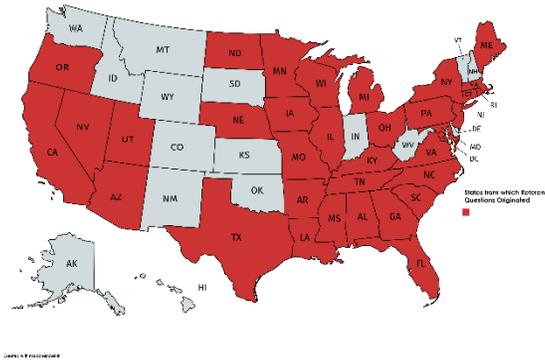
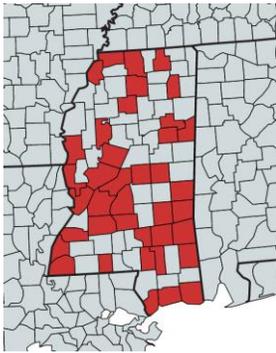
The three day Conference, to be held in April, 2020, will involve educational sessions, workshops, library tours, and receptions.

A Snapshot of the Library’s Reference Outreach

For the year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, the Library received 1,891 requests for reference assistance.

Of Mississippi’s 82 counties, requests were received from 39 counties. The majority of requests originated from the Jackson metro area of Hinds (70%), Rankin (3%), and Madison (2%) counties.

Below, counties colored Red indicate counties served by the Library.



Other than Mississippi, requests were received from 33 States plus the District of Columbia. On an international scale, we received requests from Australia, Costa Rica, and Spain.

Library Signs Preservation Steward Agreement with GPO

The following is reprinted from a July 18, 2018, news release of the Government Publishing Office:

“WASHINGTON — The University of Minnesota Libraries, the University of Maine Garbrecht Law Library, St. John’s University School of Law, Rittenberg Law Library, and the State Law Library of Mississippi each signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) to become Preservation Stewards. Under this agreement, the libraries pledge to permanently preserve GPO’s print collections of the following:

- University Minnesota Libraries: *United States Serial Set*
- University of Maine, Garbrecht Law Library: *United States Reports*
- St. John’s University School of Law, Rittenberg Law Library: Congressional hearings and prints from the 100th Congress through the 103rd Congress
- State Law Library of Mississippi: *United States Reports, Statutes at Large, and Public Papers of the President*

To help Federal depository libraries meet the needs of efficient Government document stewardship in the digital era, GPO has established Preservation Stewards to support continued public access to historic U.S. Government documents in print format. Preservation Stewards contribute significantly to the effort to preserve printed documents and GPO welcomes all Federal depository libraries that wish to participate as Preservation Stewards.

“GPO welcomes this group of libraries as our newest Preservation Stewards and recognizes them for their commitment to maintaining Government information,” said Superintendent of Documents Laurie Hall. “It is critical that we preserve these very valuable print collections of Government information, and I encourage more libraries to consider becoming Preservation Stewards.”

GPO is the Federal Government’s official, digital, secure resource for producing, procuring, cataloging, indexing, authenticating, disseminating, and preserving the official information products of the U.S.

Government. The GPO is responsible for the production and distribution of information products and services for all three branches of the Federal Government, including U.S. passports for the Department of State as well as the official publications of Congress, the White House, and other Federal agencies in digital and print formats. GPO provides for permanent public access to Federal Government information at no charge through www.govinfo.gov, partnerships with approximately 1,150 libraries nationwide participating in the Federal Depository Library Program, and our secure online bookstore. For more information, please visit www.gpo.gov.”

Veterans of World War I on the Supreme Court

Earlier this summer, the Library hosted author Anne Webster. Webster is the author of *Mississippians in the Great War: Selected Letters*, published in 2015. As this year marks 100 years since the end of World War I, Webster’s discussion of her book was most timely. More than 55,000 Mississippians served in the Great War. They served as soldiers, aviators, sailors, nurses, and YMCA workers.

Webster’s research focused on letters from those serving to their loved ones back home in Mississippi. Her interest in this type of archival history began when an individual approached her at the Department of Archives & History seeking materials on World War I. Finding very little, she began to search for more.



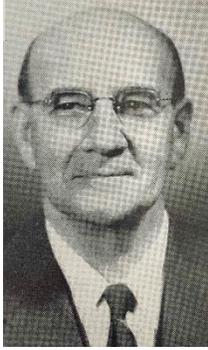
Three of those 55,000+ Mississippians who served in the War eventually became members of the Mississippi Supreme Court.



R. Olney Arrington: A native of Monticello, Arrington served overseas with the Navy during World War I. A graduate of the University of Mississippi Law School, he served in the state Senate and as an assistant attorney general. He served the Supreme Court from 1950 until his death in 1963.



John William Kyle: A native of the Batesville area, Kyle volunteered for service and was assigned to duty with the Medical Detachment of the 312 Field Signal Battalion at Camp Pike, Arkansas. A graduate of the University of Mississippi Law School, he served in both the state House and Senate and briefly as the Attorney General of Mississippi. He was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1950 and served until his death in 1965.



Taylor H. McElroy: A native of Memphis, McElroy served on General Pershing's Headquarters Staff in Paris, France. A graduate of the University of Mississippi Law School, he briefly served in the state Legislature before a twenty-five year career as a circuit court judge. Appointed to the Mississippi Supreme Court in 1960, McElroy served for five years. He passed away in 1988.

Upcoming Events

- Westlaw Training: Westlaw Basics
 - Tuesday, September 11, 2018, 10:00-11:00
 - First Floor Meeting Room
 - Open to Everyone
- Westlaw Training: Statutes and Legislative History
 - Tuesday, September 18, 2018, 10:00-11:00
 - First Floor Meeting Room
 - Open to Everyone

On Thursday, October 4, 2018, the State Law Library in partnership with the Rowland Medical Library at UMMC and Mississippi College Law Library will present a workshop at the Mississippi Library Commission on free legal and medical research services for public librarians. Public librarians without a legal or medical background oftentimes approach legal and medical reference questions with apprehension. It is our hope that through this workshop, librarians will learn the best practices and methods of handling these types of requests.